

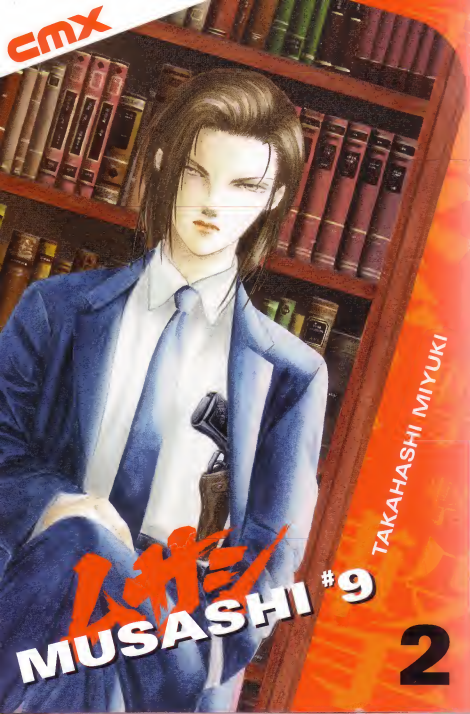
YUKISAMA SCANS

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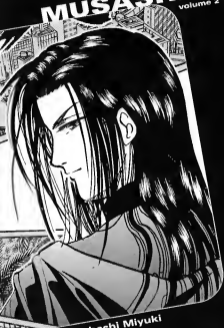
TAKAHASHI MIYUKI

LONE WOLF AND CUB
MUSASHI #9

2

MUSASHI #9

volume 2



by Takahashi Miyuki

The history of mankind has
been one of wars. Race.
Religion. Philosophy.
The causes are untold.

The combatants have their own
justifications, but on occasion,
some create a volatile
situation that threatens to
destroy the world.

Ultimate Blue.

An organization shrouded in
complete secrecy. Also known
as "the other United Nations."
Nobody knows when it was
created. Nobody knows
where it is based.

The Blue of the Seas.
The Blue of the Skies.
The Blue of the Earth.

The last line of defense against chaos.





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MUSASHI #9

2

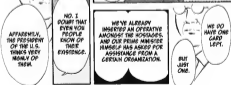
9番目の ムサシ

Mission 5:

No. 4

NUMBER
FOUR
WILL BE
THREE,
100.

UB





WANT A
PURE MESS
HIT IN,
MAN?



YES,
I'M
SUZUKI.

YOU
SAID YOU
WERE THE
GONCH
OF NORTH
NIGHT?

YOU GAVE
ALL THE WAY
ONLY TO LAND
SHAKE STAR IN
THE MIDDLE
OF THE.



So, how
to get
these
24 out.

They planned it right...
An all-boys high school
right by the sea.
Extended holidays,
but 22 basketball
players and 2 coaches
camping here for extra
practice. Nobody
sees them. Smart.



BUT AT LEAST
YOU AND YOUR
KIDS ARE ALL
RIGHT.

HEY!
SHUT
UP! NO
TALKIN'!

IT WAS A BIT
OF A SHOCK. I JUST
CAME IN TO SEE IF
YOU WANTED TO PUT
YOUR BOYS AGAINST
MINE IN A FRIENDLY.
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO
HAVE GUNS POINTED
AT ME.



So
they're
P.P.



THEY'RE
THE WORLD'S
MOST
POWERFUL
ORGANIZATION.

THEY'RE
CALLED
ULTIMATE
REAR. THE
LAST LINE OF
DEFENSE.



And
there's
the
problem
banker.



I've gotta hand
it to them. They
picked a good spot.
A perfect view
of the bay.



I HEAR
YA, BRO.
HOW LONG
ARE THEY
GONNA KEEP
US COOPED
UP HERE?

MAN, I'M
GETTIN'
SUNNY.







Let's revise this situation.

Showtime is 12 noon.



Sight hours to go.

Ten to take out. And I have to do it when it's "time." And the guys outside have to knock out the tanker at precisely the same time. Otherwise it's game over. But I can't even call outside.



AM, EXCUSE ME.

So what do I need to do with that?



UM, CAN YOU... LIKE... WAIT HERE?

NO CAN DO. I CAN'T HAVE YOU RUNNING AWAY.



I NEED TO... LIKE... DO.

WAIT ALL RIGHT, COME ON THEN.



AND WE'RE ALL PRETTY HEALTHY, SO WE AREN'T GONNA STAY IN TO DEATH OR NOTHING. WELL, MAYBE THE TEACH WILL, YOU KNOW?

I WOULDN'T WORRY IF I WAS YOU.

IF IT WERE THE FAN, JUST STAY BEHIND US. A GUY AS THIN AS YOU OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO FIND SOME COVER.

IT'S LIKE SOMETHING OUTTA THE MOVIES, YOU KNOW? LIES, IT AIN'T REAL. SO, LIE... UM... NOW CAN YOU GET SCARED, YOU KNOW?

I'M SHIMIZUKA.

I'M SASHIMOTO.

AND I'M MIYASHITA.

IS ANY GAGE, I'M TAKESHITA, THE CAPTAIN.



I GUESS IT'S "ME."









But there's no way the C.I.A. is going to turn over the cell leaders they finally caught.

Do we listen to their demands? Back in the seventies, the government caved in and exchanged members of an extremist group for prisoners on a hijacked jet. That's the only way out.

An hour to the deadline. So what's the government going to do?







Oh
hey...



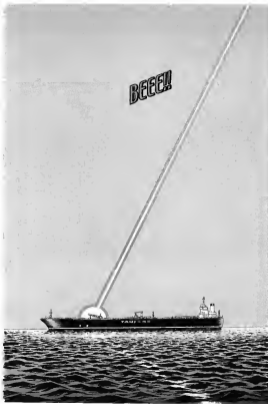
BONG

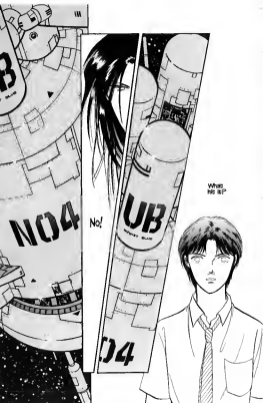
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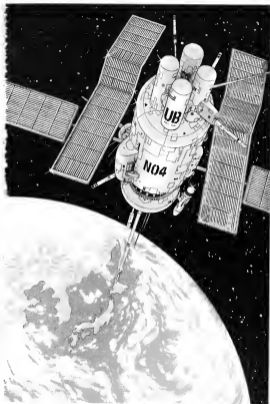
BONG



BONG









Mission 5 - No. 4: End

After that, the S.W.A.T. team came in and took down the terrorists without a fight. I guess they'd lost their will to fight. And the girl? Well, she just left.



Except utter confusion—and a lot of questions.



Left nothing behind.

HEY, NINJA NINE.



A single-digit speed? Her?

So maybe Ultimate Blue really is all-powerful. And their anti-matter core was supposed to be able to change the course of history.

OH, GIVE IT A REST.



THE PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN SENDS HIS PERSONAL THANKS. MAYBE THERE'S A JOB FOR YOU IN HOLLYWOOD.

**"Old soldiers never die.
They just fade away."**

— Douglas MacArthur

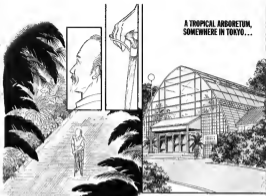


Mission 6 – The Promise, Part 1

9番目の ムサシ



Mission 6:
The Promise, part 1



A TROPICAL ARBORETUM,
SOMEWHERE IN TOKYO...





...is so stupid.



Everyone and everything...





YOU
BAB-
TART!

Behind
you!



WASTE
HIM!

IT AIN'T
GOT HIMIN'
TA DO WITH
YOU, SO
BEAT
IT!

YOU GUYS
ARE TOUGH,
GANGING UP
ON THIS
GENTLEMAN.

Oh no.
A macho
idiot.

SAY WHAT?

But you got
these occasionally,
don't you?

Look how
scrawny he is.
How's he gonna take
on three at once?

WHO'S
G'YA
FRISKIN'
THINK
YOU
ARE?

This
old is.

SH, KAYS A
SEAT ON THAT
BENCH AND
LET ME DEAL
WITH THEM.

BUT SO HE
GAEPEL.
DON'T
ONEDO

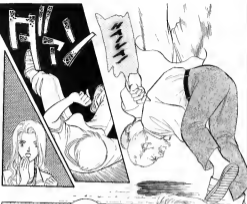
SORRY FOR
STEPPING
IN.



I'M MUCH
OBLIVED,
SONNY.

WE,
I'LL
SEE
YOU
HOME.

WELL, MY
SAGE.



I CAN'T BE
LOSING TO YOU
YOUNGSTERS.

NOT
JUST
YET.



BRAVO. A
LITTLE ON THE
THIN SIDE,
BUT YOU'RE
GOOD.

THANKS.



NOT
AT
ALL.

WE'LL
GET YOU!



NOW,
GET OUT
OF THIS
PUBLIC
PARK.



Wow!
This old
fart is
tough!



What am I doing here?



OH?

OH?

OH?

5:30. huh? Why earlier than yesterday.



No. There's more. Something was different about him.

He just... had it.



How stupid. Mr. Superfox Serika is seriously thinking about a guy! Okay, 'co he was tough. But that's all.

Sigh



He's not gonna be here again. He was just passing through.

So why am I kidding myself?



SERIKAP HELLOOOO?

SERIKA CALLING SERIKA...

SOP WHO DO WE FARTY WITH?

CHECK IT OUT. GYPS FROM U.E. AND U.E. ARE HANDIN' OUT BY THE MAIN GATE-- WAITIN' FOR YOU.



I WON'T BE FARTYING FOR A WHILE.

SEE YA.



HAH, I'LL PASS. YOU DEAL WITH IT.



IT'S NOT "YEAH." WHY ARE YOU SO OUT OF IT?

SCHOOL'S OVER IF YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED. WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO TODAY?



WHY?

WHY?



Seika High School for Girls

There's no way he's too much older than me.

Kinda cute, too. So how come he's *alone* by himself?

Maybe I should sit on him.

What the...

He must be really klutzy.

Oh no. Gramps is being hassled—*again*!

I DON'T KNOW!
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT!

I guess this is where he walks. But he shouldn't be coming here at night. Those losers from yesterday night...

That's the old guy from yesterday.

Maybe I should pick up a guy and...

Huh?

Yeah, sure. Who am I kidding?

Gee, guess. Nothing but couples now.

POOF!

Like, don't scare the living daylight's out of me, okay?

THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

SORRY, I SHOULD'VE ASKED. MAY I SH DOWN? THE OTHER SEATS WERE TAKEN.

BE SURE... I MEAN... UM... GO AHEAD.







WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, SUE?



NO...IT LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE LINE FOR ME...

WE'VE ALREADY MADE IT TO THE SEA.

THERE SHOULD BE A COUPLE OF OUR GUYS STILL.

LISTEN—TERRACE MIGHT—UGH, HANG ON.



THESE ARE MY FINAL ORDERS, SERGEANT TAKAMORI. I WANT YOU TO TAKE CARE OF THIS.



I'M COUNTING ON YOU, TAKAMORI. NO MATTER WHAT, DON'T LET IT FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.

NO... DON'T EVER GIVE IT TO ANYONE...

IT MIGHT HAVE FINE.

I HADSE DID WANT THIS, AND JUST BECAUSE OF IT, I LOST AN ENTIRE PLATOON OF EXCELLENT MEN. BUT ORDERS WERE ORDERS.

He's different.
Totally different.
He's nothing like anybody else.

Who is he?
What is he?
And why am I so...



...attracted to him?



NO.

IT'D BE BETTER NOT TO.



9番目の ムサシ

Mission 6:

The Promise, part 2

The war ended in 1945.

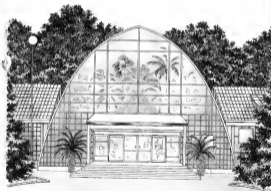
Only when the sun finally set on Japan's imperial ambitions was the staggering cost in lives discovered. Five hundred thousand men never made it home.

In World War II, the Imperial Japanese Army sent vast numbers of men into the South Pacific.





Yeah, yeah, I know, I know. Everyone knows about the war. But, like, what's it got to do with me? I mean, it happened way, way, way before I was born.





"YOU'RE
GETTING IT?"

It wasn't a
coincidence he was
there and helped
gramps.

He was there
for a reason.



And the
goons that
tried to mug
gramps the second
time definitely
weren't regular
hoods either.

There's
no chance
I'm gonna
let it end
here!

Then, like,
what's his
name?

I mean,
where's he
from?

What's
he do?

He's not
some regular
guy.

There's no
way he's
just a
regular guy.

As any rule,
he's nothing
like us.



I want to
know--*have*
to know--
more about him!

I gotta know
why, why more
about him!



LIVE
NOW--
TO-DAY!



I'M
GOTTING
PIZ.

No
chance!



TRY
ME
AFTER
NOT
10!



It all begins, what, a
couple of nights ago?

There he is, acting all macho--
jumping in to save some sorry geriatric
case from a bunch of goons.

And I'm thinking, "There's always
a macho idiot in every crowd."



So I go back and
wait to see, like,
what happens next.
And the next time I
see him, he's got me
doing a complete
about-face.

And yet I
couldn't get
him out of my
head.









BUT IT'S MY
DUTY TO
GUARD IT TO
THE END.

IF I NEED
TO GO TO
THE POLICE,
THEY'D
CONFISCATE IT
AS EVIDENCE,
WOULDN'T
THEY?

I HAVE NO
INTENTIONS OF
BREAKING THAT
PROMISE.

HE'S LAST
ORDERS
WERE, "DOWY
EVER GIVE IT
TO ANYONE."

NOT
UNTIL THE
DAY I
DIE.



That thingy that's sort
of like some island in
the South Pacific?

So that you won't
forget your promise?

So that you
won't quit?

So that's why?

So that's why
you're gonna go to
this "arboretum"
again?



Those
looseys that
tried to hit
on me
would've
just
chucked it
in five
seconds
flat.

But it's been
fifty years.

Afore than
fifty years!

How can
you keep a
promise for
that long
to someone
that's not
even alive?



HE'S NO
DIFFERENT
FROM THOSE
OTHER
KOOKALINGS.
HE'S
AFTER WHAT
I INHERITED.
AND HE'S BEEN
WATCHING ME
THIS WHOLE
TIME.

HE DID
NOT COME
TO MY
RESCUE.



UH...
SURE.

WELL,
MOM... I'LL
BE GONE
NOW.

MUCH
OBLIVIOUS FOR
LISTENING TO
THE
RAMBLINGS
OF AN OLD
MAN.

UNDER-
STOOD?

I'D BE
BOGGING YOU
AGAIN, WERE
I TO TALK
ABOUT IT.

IT'S
NOTHING.

SIR, I DOWY
KNOW WHAT
YOU WANT, BUT
LIKE, AREN'T
YOU IN
SERIOUS
TROUBLE?



BECAUSE
WHAT I
INHERITED IS
NOT TELLING ME.
IT ACTUALLY
BELONGS TO
MY
COMMANDING
OFFICER.

BUT,
WHY?



THAT
I CAN'T
DO.

I THINK
YOU
SHOULD
GO TO THE
POLICE.

THOSE
GAYS
WEREN'T
JUST
MADDOGS.
THEY WERE
ALL FACING
DEATH.



WHAT? A PARTY AT THE COLLEGE? NOT INTERESTED.

LIKE I SAID, I'M NOT GOING BE PARTYS FOR A WHILE.

LIKE, JUST DEAL WITH IT ON YOUR OWN, OKAY?

LIKE, WHY ARE YOU SO RUSH, RIGHT?

I THOUGHT MR. PERFECT LAD THE BIG NADA ON YA.



HE'S A REAL BENT. HE'S GOT SOMETHING THE COLLEGE GAYS DON'T HAVE.

I'M GOING SOMEONE RAY, RAY OLIVE. Tak tak.



WE GOTTA SEE THIS!

ME, TOO.

YOU KNOW, I'M SORTA INTERESTED IN WHAT A REAL GENT CAN BE LIKE.

SHE'S REALLY CHANGED. YOU SAID IT, ONE. SHE'S NEVER BEEN INTERESTED IN ANYTHING.

SEE YA.

SEE STE.



Grampa. Shin-zuki Kou.

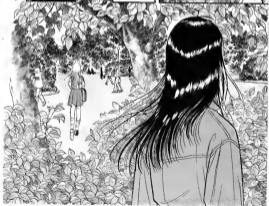
Little's not a joke to them. It's something to really care about. I can't measure up to that.

Maybe that's what it is.



I don't know why. I just would.

I'd sleep losers like them.





I KNOW IT'S
BORROWING ON
TREASON, BUT YOU
HAVE GIRLFRIENDS,
WIVES, MOTHERS,
FATHERS. WHAT'S
TO GO HOME TO.

I'M NOT SURE
I FOLLOW
YOU, SIR



IT'S ALL
BECAUSE
OF
THAT.



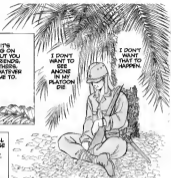
BUT THERE'S
NOT WAY I'M
GOING TO
THROW
AWAY LIVES
JUST FOR
THAT.

GETTING
KILLED
FIGHTING
THE ENEMY
IS ONE
THING.



IT'S ALL YOURS,
SERGEANT
TAKAMORI.

TAKE IT.



I DON'T
WANT TO
SEE
ANYONE
IN MY
PLATOON
DIE

I DON'T
WANT
THAT TO
HAPPEN.

Pretty much off
the mark on that
one. No way they'd
use an operative
this young.



WHAT IS
THE
GREATEST
THING A
SOLDIER
CAN DO?

SERGEANT
TAKAMORI,
LET ME
ASK YOU A
QUESTION



TO DIE
GLORIOUSLY,
FOR HIS
COUNTRY,
LIEUTENANT
MIZOGUCHI,
SIR!

YES... THAT'S
WHAT WE'RE
TAUGHT.

BUT JUST
BETWEEN YOU
AND ME...







THE GOLD IS WORTH TWO BILLION DOLLARS TODAY.

IT IS A MAP OF WHERE THE JAPANESE WEREAL ARMY HAS ITS GOLD IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

TELL ME!

I'M NOT GONNA LISTEN TO YOU IF YOU DON'T!

THAT GENTLEMAN HAS "IMMERSED" A TERRIBLE SECRET.

AND FOR HIM TO HAND IT OVER TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE.

OUR MISSION IS TO MAKE SURE NOBODY ELSE SEES THE MAP.

IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF IT WERE TO FALL INTO THE HANDS OF A CRIME SYNDICATE OR SOME ANTI-GOVERNMENT SQUADRELLAS SOMEWHERE.

PRESERVING LAW AND ORDER IN THE WORLD.

THAT'S THE SORT OF ORGANIZATION I WORE FOR.

AND THAT TIME IS VERY CLOSE. HE'LL BE FREE AFTER THAT.

JUST TIME?

WHEN'S THE ONE BEFORE?

THEORIST GROUPS AND CRIME SYNDICATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD WANT HIM.

BUT NOW IS NOT THE TIME.

IT'S VERY DANGEROUS TO BE NEAR HIM RIGHT NOW.

TELL ME! WHY DO PEOPLE LIKE THAT WANT HIM?

WHO ARE YOU?

WHAT ARE YOU?

MY JOB IS TO PROTECT HIM.

UNTIL IT'S TIME.



WHAT'S THAT CAR DOING?

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A PARK!

SCREECH

REGARDED, IT'S NOT AS IF HE REALLY WENT OUT...

THAT'S THE WAY THE GOODIE GOONIES. I SORRY KNEW IT, ANYWAY.

NO WAY! BUT... BUT...



WATCH OUT!

SCREEEEEEEEEEEECH WHUMP



YEAH, WHAT DID HE SAY?

SOP WHAT DID HE SAY?

Believe you? I can't even believe I'm supposed to believe that!

SERIKA, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU KEPT THIS FROM US.

IF YOU REALLY LIKE GUYS LIKE THAT, YOU SHOULD'VE JUST TOLD US.



I knew this from the moment I met you.

WHAT HAPPENED?

WHAT'S WRONG, SERIKA?

I know you were different from the usual losers.

I knew your world was totally different from mine.



YOU HEARD IT FIRST. KAZUMI SERIKA HAD HER HEAD BROKEN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HER LIFE.

NEW NEW. COMPLETELY. STRIKELY SHOT DOWN IN FLAMES.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IT, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.

BUT NEED ANY REASONING.

IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.





I'LL
CALL
NOE.



It's
real...
I think.

And we
are in
Japan
still, aren't
we?



This
isn't a
movie.



Girl...
Get a grip on
yourself.



ALL RIGHT, I WANT YOU
TO TAKE
CARE OF MR.
TAKAMORI.

THE
SECRET TO
STAYING
ALIVE IS
SIMPLE.

WE'VE
GOT
COMPANY.

TOO
LATE.



AND
DON'T
MAKE A
SOUND.

NOE
IN THE
BUSHES.



WHEN
IT'S
OVER...

THERE
WOULDN'T BE
ANY MORE.

IT'S
ALL
RIGHT
NOW.

ALL
RIGHT?

I DIDN'T
WANT YOU TO
GO THROUGH
THIS.

DON'T
WORRY.
I'LL STAY
WITH ME.

IT LOOKS
AS THOUGH
THEY FOUND
WHAT THEY
WERE
LOOKING
FOR.

IT'S
TIME.

I'VE
NEVER
SEEN
SUCH A
FEAT.

THIS
GUILTY?
NO.

S
O
B

YOU
CAN
COME
OUT
NOW.

IT'S
OVER.

W
A
A
A
A
A
A
A



It lasted over 50
years, but...

In a small corner...

...of an arboretum
that reminded him
of the South
Pacific...



Mr.
Takamori's
war came
to an
end.

Is this real?
Is this really
happening?

I hope it is.

Because
it's so
wonderful.



Is
this...



Maybe life
isn't such
a joke.

Maybe
there's
more to
life than I
thought.



WELL DONE,
SOLDIER.



SERGEANT
TAKAMORI
STARED, YOU ARE
NOW OFFICIALLY
RELIEVED OF
YOUR DUTIES.

HAND OVER
THE HAT,
SERGEANT.



It doesn't really matter.
At least I really meant it.

And besides, Kou
was really nice. In a
wild sort of way.

Oh well.

STRANGE

I'm gonna
forcibly remember
this one...

I'm gonna
remember this for a
long, long time.

Mission 6 - The Promise, Part 2: End

Duhhhhhh



NOW
WHAT'S
SHE ON
ABOUT?

I MEAN,
LIKE, HAE'S
THAT DO
THINGS TO
PEOPLE LIKE
THAT MICE
OLD MAN.

YOU
AIDHAFST
DIDN'T YOU
SEE WHAT
HAPPENED?

TALK ABOUT
EXCITEMENT
LAST NIGHT!
SO? SO?
SO? NOW?
IT SO?

351944
I can't
believe
how
stupid
I was.

FORGET IT!
FORGET THAT I
EVEN BROUGHT
IT UP! AND
DON'T EVER,
EVER TALK
ABOUT HIM
AGAIN.

AH...WHAT DO YOU
MEAN? THERE WAS
THAT ACCIDENT.
YOU TOOK OFF.
SO WE HAD TO
CALL THE POLICE
AND...

Died on the
very day of my
17th birthday.



Sombody I
knew really
good died.

Got hit by a car.
The sort of accident
you read about in
some corner of
a paper.



ALL
RIGHT,
COME
ON IN.



That
should've
been the
end of it.



One month ago,
and nobody talks
about it no more.
That's the sort of
thing it was.

SORRY,
DAD.

PUTT-
NEAR! WATCH
WHERE
YOU'RE
THROWIN'
THAT!

ENOUGH,
YOU JACK-
ASSES! GET
MOVING
AROUND
AND GET
DOWN!
WE'VE
GOT A LOT OF
STUFF TO
DO FOR
TODAY!



But it
wasn't. It
was just the
beginning.



9番目の ムサシ

Mission 7:
The Message, part 1









NOT A GOOD IDEA, DON'T PISS HIM OFF EVEN MORE.



SO NO ONE TALKS ABOUT SHIMADA NO MORE.
IT'S FOR SHINGO, YOU KNOW?



HE WAS NICE ENOUGH TO SAY HI. I OWE HIM THAT.
ANY IDEAS WHERE HE WENT?



SMALL WONDER HE BECAME SO ANGRY.



THAT'S WHY HE DON'T TALK ABOUT SHIMADA.

I TELL YA, IT MUST BE REALLY HARD ON SHINGO. HIS BEST FRIEND DIES ON HIM BEFORE THEY TALKA IT UP, YOU KNOW?

I THINK HE'S TRYIN' TO MAKE IT EASIER ON HIMSELF BY THINKIN' THAT SHIMADA WAS JUST SOME BOOBY, YOU KNOW?



IT'S PROBABLY WHERE THE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB MEETS.



THANKS, I'LL CHECK THERE.



UN-HM. YEAM. WOW, THE GUY'S PRETTY COOL.



THOSE RELATIVES APPARENTLY MOVED TO TOKYO, SOMETIME THIS YEAR. PROBABLY APRIL OR MAY, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT.

I GUESS 'CAUSE IT WAS A NEW START AND ALL. SHINGO MOVED OUT ON HIS OWN. HE ROOMED UP WITH SHIMADA, SET UP CAMP AROUND HERE, AND STUTTERED DOWN' HERE.

SHINGO AND SHIMADA WENT HAW, HAW BACK. YOU'D ALMOST THINK THEY CAME FROM THE SAME PRISON' HOSPITAL. THEY WERE, LIEE, DIES CLOSE.

WELL, IT'S LIEE THIS...

ANYHOW, WHEN SHINGO WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL, HIS PARENTS GOT PESTED IN A CAR ACCIDENT. SOME RELATIVES FROM HAW DOWN SOUTH, LIKE OKUNAKA, TOOK HIM IN.



SHIMADA WAS THINKIN' THE SAME, YOU KNOW? THEN IT HIT THE FAN ONE DAY.

SHIMADA WAS LIKE A BRO' TO SHINGO. 'CAUSE IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, SHINGO AIN'T GOT NO REAL FAMILY.

THEY WERE, LIEE, REALLY, REALLY GOOD BROTHERS.



ANYHOW, THIS GOES ON FOR A MONTH. NEXT THING YOU KNOW, SHIMADA'S GONE.

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?

I'M NOT REALLY SURE, BUT I HEARD THAT IT WAS SOMETHIN' ABOUT CAREERS, IF YOU CAN BELIEVE THAT.

IT WAS LIEE...WHOA. THEY WOULDN'T TALK TO EACH OTHER, MAN. THEY WOULDN'T EVEN LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

THEY GOT INTO A MADNESS SCAPE.

WHAT? A MONTH BEFORE SHIMADA DIES?



"IT DON'T
MATTER NOW
THAT YOU'RE
BACK,
TOSHIO."



"EVEN MY OLD MAN
AND LADY WERE
GAMING OFF."

"SINCE WE WERE
ONLY CHILDREN AND
CLOSED IN
BROTHERS, THEY
WERE JOONMA
TAKE YOU IN."



"TECH WERE ON IN. WE'RE
ALWAYS BONNA BE TOGETHER."

"SAME CLASS, SAME
UNIVERSITY. WE'RE BONNA BE
A TEAM FOR THE REST OF
OUR LIVES."

"YOU
HAVEN'T
CHANGED
ONE BIT.
TECHY AS
ALWAYS."



"WHY'D YA SPLIT FOR
JOONMA, DICKHEAD?"

"I DUNNO. TEMPORARY LAPSE OF
REASON. C'MON, MY MOM AND
DAD WERE KILLED."

"TOSHIO, LIES, BEAR
A HEART SOMETHING,
NUN?"



"WHAT ARE YOU NOSH ON? DICKHEAD!
DIDN'T YOU READ ANY A MY LETTERS? I
TOLD YOU I JOINED THE PHOTO CLUB!"

"HEY, THAT'S A GREAT PICTURE OF
A MOUNTAIN IN WHITE."

"DON'T FREAKIN' B.S.
ME, DICKY."

"HOW, SO
YOU'RE INTO
PHOTOGRAPHY,
YEAH?"



"I'LL TAKE
YOU ONE
OF THESE
DAYS."

"NO, REALLY. I
WAS IN JOONMA, IF
YOU'RE LIVING WHERE
IT'S NO JOONMA
ALL THE TIME, SHOW
DUTY TO BE REALLY
GOOD."



"SHOCK?"



"SHOCK?
THAT REALLY
YOU?"

"WHAT ARE YOU
NOSH ON?"



"WAS YOU'RE
BACK,
TOSHIO?"

"LONG
TIME NO
SEE, DICKY!"



THAT IS
OUT OF THE
BLUE. BUT, I
DUNNO...

NOT
REALLY.
WHY?

IT'S JUST
THAT I'VE
STARTED LYING
ON MY OWN.
TODAY. I THOUGHT
YOU WOULD
GIVE ME A
POINTER OR TWO.

OK.



WAS
ANYTHING
OUT OF THE
ORDINARY
HAPPENED
RECENTLY?

IS
EVERY-
THING
ALL
RIGHT?



AND
BEAN
CLEAN OF
SALESMEN.
THE ONES
ON THE
PHONE,
TODAY.

THE ONLY
THINGS YOU
HAD TO WATCH
OUT FOR IS
TURNING OFF
THE GAS AND
LOCKING THE
DOOR.

I DUNNO. JUST
DEAL WITH IT.
YOU'LL FIGURE
IT OUT YOUR-
SELF.



WHAT
DO THEY
SAY?

MILLIONS OF
THEM. THERE
ARE A LOT OF
GRACKERS
RUNNING 'ROUND
OUT THERE.

NUTS!
REALLY.

YOU
GET
GRACK
CALLS?

AND, OH
YEARS, YOU
GOTTA DEAL
WITH GRACK
CALLS.

THOSE
CAN BE
A REAL
PAIN IN
THE BUTT.



QUITE AN
INTERESTING
SELECTION
OF BEAN.



BUT HAVN'T
THIS THE
PHOTOGRAPH
CLUB?

THIS IS ALL
MOUNTAIN
CLIMBING
BEAN.



ALL
RIGHT.

FOR-
GET
ABOUT
IT.

THIS MAY
BE OUT OF
THE BLUE,
BUT...

IF IT'S
ANYTHING,
I'M REALLY
SORRY. I
DON'T KNOW
THE FULL
STORY.

CAN'T
PROBABLY
TAKE 'EM IF
YOU DON'T
CLIMB 'EM,
YEAH?

IT IS.

THE BEAN'S
FOR TAKEN
PICTURES
OF MOUNTAINS.





YOU'VE
BEEN SAYIN'
SOME FUNKY
STUFF.

WHAT'RE YOU
TRYIN' TO GET
AT? WHAT DO
YOU WANT?

OH?
SHIMADA GIVE
SOMETHING TO
YOU--POE
SAFEKEEPING?

WHOEVER
IS CALLING
YOU WANTS
THAT.

AND
HE WILL DO
WHATEVER
IT TAKES TO
GET THAT.

WHAT'RE
YOU SAYIN'?



ARE YOU
WACKO OR
SOMETHIN'?

LIKE
WHAT?



AND BESIDES,
I DIDN'T SAY
JACK TO HIM
FOR A MONTH.

SO THERE'S NO
PERSON' WAY I'D
BE HOLDIN' ON
TO SOMETHIN'
OF HIS!

THE CALLS
BEGAN
AFTER
SHIMADA
DIED.

GIVE IT
A REST,
BUT--
NEARBY!

I'M
NOT
KIDDING.

I AMN'T GOT
NUTTIN' LIKE
THAT. POE
GIVIN' OUT
LOUS!

WHAT A
WASTE OF
TIME TALKIN'
TO YOU WAS!



I THINK IF
YOU CAN CALL
THAT OUT OF
THE CRYSTAL,
THOUGH.

THOSE
CALLS.

AT FIRST, I
THOUGHT IT
WAS JUST A
WRONG
NUMBER,
YEAH? BUT THE
GUY JUST
DON'T KNOW
WHEN TO QUIT.



THEY
BEGAN AFTER
SHIMADA DIED,
DIDN'T THEY?



LIKE,
"GIVE US
WHAT
YOU'RE
KEEPING."

WHAT A
JOKER,
YEAH?



SOMEONE
WANTS
YOU.

THEY ARE
NOT
CRANK
CALLS. THEY ARE
NOT
WRONG
NUM-
BERS.



ASIAN BLACK PANTHER APPROACHES.
HEIGHTEN SECURITY.









WHO THE HELL IS THIS? I CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF WHAT YOU'RE BARFLIN' ABOUT!

YOU REALLY ARE WACKED!

LET GO!

CAN YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING? ANYTHING AT ALL?

OTHERWISE, YOU ARE IN SOME DANGER.

WE KNOW HE DID IT. WITHOUT PROOF, THOUGH, WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING.

SHIMADA HAD THAT PROOF.



NO. WON'T YOU...

YOU GET OFF FROM EVERYONE'S BACKS! PEOPLE WHEN THEY'RE DOWN?

AND WHERE DO YOU GET OFF 'TALKIN' 'BOUT SHIMADA?



THEN, GET LOST!

I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE.

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO? I'M SUPPOSED TO RELIEVE SOME PERSON'S LOONIN' STORY OF A GUY I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN BEFORE?

...RE-LIVE MY STORY?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT ABOUT YOU! THERE'D BE SOME-THIN' SERIOUSLY, SERIOUSLY WRONG WITH ME IF I STARTED LISTENING TO SOME PERSON'S STORY STRAIGHT OUT OF A MOVIE!



YOUR ENEMIES HAVE DECIDED TO ELIMINATE YOU.

He's strong.

Like, really friggin' strong!

But, like, he's really screwy.

THAT R.S. AGAIN?

DO YOU REMEMBER THAT A GOVERNMENT MEMBER WAS KILLED LAST MONTH?

WHAT'S IT GOT TO DO WITH ME?

WHAT THE... WHY AM I?

LET GO!



BUT A CRIME SYNDICATE WAS NOT IMPRESSED AND HAD HIM ASSASSINATED.

HE USED HIS REPUTATION AND INFLUENCE IN AN ATTEMPT TO TIGHTEN GUN-SMUGGLING LAWS.

HE WAS ACTIVELY CAMPAIGNING AGAINST THE RISE OF GUN-RELATED VIOLENCE IN THIS COUNTRY.



AND HE HAPPENS TO BE THE ONE AFTER YOU.

THE ASSASSIN BELONGS TO AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL KILLERS.

SHIMADA, CHECK IT OUT, SUDE.

THE NEW GUY'S BEEN LOOKIN' YOUE WAY THE WHOLE TIME, SUDE.

WHY DON'T YA BARE UP A BIT AND LET SHODONES BE SHODONES, SUDE?

IT AIN'T LIKE YOU.

BEEETEE...

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO END UP LIKE HIM, YOU'D BETTER BEAT THINKIN'—FAST.

This ain't happenin'.

It's just a bad trip.

Sombody—anybody—tell me this ain't happenin'.

SHIMADA!

WHO?

WHO TOLD YOU?

YOU'RE THE GUY THAT WHACKED THE REP.

NOT A DAMN THING!

I DO NOT KNOW ANYTHING!

IF IT WOULDN'T FOR THAT ASSHOLE OF YOURS YESTER, YOU'D HAVE BEEN KNOWN ON HEAVEN'S DATE.

Y-O-E...

HEH HEH HEH
YOU'D BE SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD.

BUT BEING AS NOTHING CAME OUT OF YOUR AFT-MENT, I DON'T GOT THE TIME TO BE DEAD! ALREADY ANYMORE.

DON'T LIE TO ME. I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT HE CALLED YOU.

YOU KNEW HIM BEST.

HE WAS YOUR FIRST FRIEND.

COME ON! TELL ME! WHO'S REP?

REP WHO'S REP?



I GET IT

YOU WANNA GO?

WHY'D YA BRING ME HERE?

I JUST WANT MY LIFE TO GET BACK TO BEING REASONABLY NORMAL!

WHETHER YOUR LIFE RETURNS TO "REASONABLY" NORMAL IS UP TO YOU.

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO BELIEVE ME.

HEH?

FOR THAT TO HAPPEN, FIRST THING'S FIRST.

NO HAW!



LOSER.

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT?

HE WENT AFTER HIM ANYWAY. HE DON'T GIVE UP EASY, EITHER.



SHINZOU!



I DON'T WANNA HEAR ABOUT ANYTHIN' NO MORE. I DON'T WANNA THINK ABOUT ANYTHIN' NO MORE.

WHAT HAPPES TODAY AND YESTERDAY SO DIFFERENT? HUH?
AND WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

COME WITH ME. I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.

WELL, I DON'T!

WHY'D YA THINK YOU'DE DON'T LET GO?







**SHINGO,
HIT THE
GROUND!**









Mission 7 - The Message, Part 2

The stuff that's gone down the last couple of days is just too far out there.

It's like I'm having a bad *bad* trip.

I don't think it can get any weirder than this.

And if that isn't enough...

I got James Bond showin' up lookin' for the trigger!



My best friend is chased and killed by a hit man?

Silhouette Kow!
There ain't no way that's Bond's real name.

Shows up at my school, too!

Agent Nine.

Why is somebody supposedly that awesome...

Code name, Musashi.

Yeah, it's out there. Ain't nuttin' real about this.

But the thing that's the hardest to believe...

MY CODE NAME...

MUSASHI.

I WORK FOR AN ORGANIZATION.

I'M OPERATIVE NUMBER NINE.

SINISOT?

I NEGLECTED TO TELL YOU THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THAT YOU NEEDED TO KNOW.

NEVER.

I HAVE NEVER FAILED TO ACCOMPLISH A MISSION.



IT'S TIME TO GET EVEN.

LET'S GO.

Mission 7 - The Message, Part 1: End



...right
behind me?

9番目の
ムサシ

Mission 7:
The Message, part 2

My best friend
is killed.

And I'm thinkin'
there ain't nuthin' I
can do about it.



It don't get
any worse...

Everything seems
friggin' hopeless...and
then I feel the hand
on my shoulder.

And as if
it was nuthin',
Bond says...

"Let's
go."

"It's time
to get
even."

I guess that's the
first time I hooked
up with the real
Shinazuka.

Or more
specifically,
"Mutsu."



He takes off when
Mount Fuji gets snow
for the first time
this season.

One photo
tells my buddy
to stay ho.

And Shinazuka has to
die at the age of 17 just
because of it.



It's only now sorta
starting to come
together.

My best friend Shinazuka
Ryoichi decides to haul
back some real snow for
me. All because I say
I missed it when I
was down south.

And at the
same time, this
police's gaze
whacked.

A photo that
shows the
trigger.







I ain't had
a minute of
peace
in the last
couple of
days.



Ryo, dude, every-
thing's gone weird.

You were the only guy
to come to this place—
until this weirdo.

And I'm not talkin' a
little bit weird. I'm
talkin' seriously weird.



Somebody tell
this con that
she's a girl!
A girl!

ALL RIGHT,
ALL RIGHT!

I WILL LEAVE
THE SECOND
THIS IS OVER.
SOON, THEN,
YOU WILL
SIMPLY HAVE
TO ACCEPT
IT.





IN THIS CASE, YOUR DISTANCE TO HIM IS EVERYTHING. PATIENTLY WAIT UNTIL HE GETS CLOSE.

THEN, STEP AROUND THE BUZZEL, GRAB THE BUZZEL WITH YOUR RIGHT HAND, POINTE IT UPWARD DIAGONALLY.

AT THE SAME TIME, PUSH HIM BACK.

HERE HE IS!

IT'S A TOY.

WAAAAH! STOP! STOP! STOP! TURN OUT!

NOW TO DEAL WITH HIM WHEN HE COMES STRAIGHT AT YOU.

BUT FACING ME.

UH... LIKE THIS?

PRETEND AS IF YOU'RE GOING TO USE IT.

HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE AN AGE SHIFTER, YEAH?

WHAT DO I DO IF HE DECIDES TO SHOOT ME FROM FAR AWAY?

ON IN THAT CASE...

Yeah, right...

UNDERSTAND GO.

UH... I NEED TO KNOW SOMETHING FIRST.

THEN, GRAB THE BUZZEL WITH YOUR LEFT HAND AND TAKE THE GUN AWAY FROM HIS HAND!

HA HA HA!

CARRYING A GUN MEANS YOU'RE WILLING AND ABLE TO KILL SOMEONE.

A GUN IS NOT A TOY.

AN UNTRAINED AMATEUR WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE SERIOUSNESS OF THAT SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO CARRY A GUN.

YOU CAN MOVE OUT NOW.

THE ONE ADVANTAGE HE HAS IS THE FACT THAT YOU'RE AN AMATEUR.

HE WILL UNDERESTIMATE YOU.

UH... YEAH.

LISTEN TO ME FOR NOW.

ARE YOU CONTINUING YOUR HEIGHT TRAINING?

FIRST...

I'M SER-GIAL.

YEAH? WELL, YOU HAVE ONE!

I'M NOT A JURY NOW, COME IT'S OKAY WITH YOU BUT NOT ME?

IT'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO AVENGE BYOGAL.

THEN WHAT? WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?

USING A GUN WOULD BE MORE DANGER-
OUS.

GUNS ARE NOT THE ONLY WAY TO ATTACK. PERHAPS, ONE OPPONENT IS A SHIFTER.



RIGHT.
SOME KID,
MAYBE
SEVEN
OR
EIGHTEEN
GOES
TO
HIGH
SCHOOL.

LONDON, ARE YOU
SURE YOU AGENT
REYNOLD? THERE'S
NO AGENT LIKE
THAT WORKING
FOR ANY
ORGANIZATION.



THAT
BASTARD IS
DEFINITELY
SOMEONE
BIGGER-
BOYSE.

EVEN
NOW,
HE'S
TEACHING
THE KID
SOME-
THING.

NOT ONLY
DID HE GET
OUT OF THE
WAY, HE SHOT
RAGE--VERY
AGGRESSIVELY.

A KID
ONLY
DIP

SHUT
UP AND
LISTEN!
THAT IS NOT
A NORMAL
KID!



LIE! I SAID,
I HAVE NEVER
FAILED TO
ACCOMPLISH
A MISSION.

THERE'S
NOTHING
YOU CAN
DO.



What am
I thinking?
Isn't he just
a kid?
produced
by a
child!

There's
nothing
to be
fearful
of.

WHAT'S
NEXT?

Ultimate
Blue
Hump

1000

The cost of failure, clearly.

THESE
ACTS
MAY BE

IT'S
COMPLETELY
YOUR FAULT.

IF YOU FAIL TO
DESTROY THE
EVIDENCE...

**DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
IT.**

Let's see
what you
clowns
can do.

SHINDO-
MEISTER,
YOU'RE HERE
EARLY.

454

NEW
STUDIES

AND THEREFORE
SUFFICIENTLY
TOTAL

EVEN THE
C.I.A. THINGS
DON'T EXIST.

THEY'RE
SUPPOSEDLY
CALLED "THE
CHINESE
UNITED
NATIONS."

AND ALL OF
THEIR AGENTS
--FROM
BABIES TO
OLD MEN--
ARE
SUPPOSED TO

ATTACANELLY
THEY HAVE
THE ABILITY
TO CHANGE
THE WORLD.

**DON'T
DO NOT
UNDER-
ESTIMATE**

CHANGES
ARE, NE'S
NOT ONE
OF THE
MOVE.

EVERY HEART
OF AN
ORGANISM
CALLED
ANIMATE
BLUES?

TYPE AN
STAMP
INDICATION
DATE
CORRECTLY
WRITES TO
THIS ONE
LO FROM
BROWN AT
LAST
BLE FROM

THESE CAN
ONLY BE
ONE
POSSIBILITY
THAT

ALL
STANDARD
PRACTICE

LET'S
ASSUME
EVERYTHING
YOU'VE
TOLD US
IS TRUE.

1992

THESE
NINE ARE
PEASAS
FOR
GOOD
EASON.

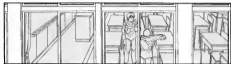
BUT THIS
MAKES
THE GAME
MUCH
MORE
IMPE-
SSING.

I
WOULD
I OWN
HAD T
AGE O
BOM
END

403

403





NEW
NEW
NEW



I CAN USE
THIS.

A GUESS?

AND THE
KID WAS
GIVING HIS
DAMNIEST
TO HER THAT.

WHO'D
HAVE
EXPECTED
THAT?

NEW
NEW
NEW

SUR-
PRISE,
SUR-
PRISE.



FOR-
GET
SOME-
THING?

UN-
NAIL

THEN
GO
AHEAD.

IT'S
NOTHING.
THIS
LOSERHEAD
WOULDN'T
LET
ANYBODY
INTO
THE
CLASS-
ROOM.

WHAT'S
MEANING?
WHAT'S
THE
CONNECTION
ABOUT?



UN-
NAIL



YEAH, RIGHT!
I'VE HAD IT
WATCHING
OUT
FOR YOU
YOU'RE ON
YOUR OWN
AFTER THIS!

THAT WAS
VERY
TACITURN-
FUL. THANK
YOU.



LIKE...
NOW.

HE'D
BE PRETTY
GOOD
LOOKIN' IF
HE WAS
A GUY.



YOU KNOW
WHAT,
THOUGH?
DID YOU
SEE
SHINGUKA
WITHOUT
HIS
GLASSES?

WASNT
SHINGO
JUMPING
AT HIM
TIL
THE
OTHER
DAY?



A BIT
TOO
CLOSE.

YEAH, LIKE,
THEY'RE
APART.



STAY HERE.
DO NOT
LEAVE
WITHOUT
ME.

HAM...
ALL
RIGHT.



M. K.P who
she hell is
M. K.P?

We need to talk. I know
Shimada. You is a girl.
Meet me at the photo
club. Come alone.

-MOE

I THOUGHT
SHIMADA
TOLD YOU
TO WAIT
FOR HIM.

I told her
to be careful!

Stupid
cow!



IT'S
BEFORE
EXAMS. THE
TEAM AIN'T
GONNA BE
FRAGGIN'.

HEY, WHAT
ABOUT THE
TEAM?

HANNA SO
SOME-
WHORE?

FINALLY.



SOME
GUY WAS
ASKED TO
GIVE THIS
TO YOU.

SURE?



SHO-
TAKA?



THE
TEACH WANTS
TO TALK TO
YOU. BE
SAYS IT'S
BE-
SENT.



WILL YOU
BE ALL
RIGHT BY
YOUR-
SELF?

UH...
NOTHING.

WHAT'S
REAR?



I'M
SAFE
IN A
GROWS,
YEAH?

AK...
GEE. LOOL.
THERE ARE
SOME
OTHER
BOYS
GILL
HERE.

YOU'RE
GOIN' TO
THE SHAP
ROOM.
RIGHT?
I'LL WAIT
HERE.









WHAT'S THE
MATTER?
GO AHEAD
SHOOT.

SHINJI
SHINJI



COME ON,
SHINJI.

JUST PULL
THE TRIGGER.
IT'S EASY.

YOU KNOW
HOW TO
SHOOT.



COME ON.

'CAUSE
YOU'LL END
UP DEAD!

WUNNA
KNOW
WHY?

LESSON
NUMBER
ONE: NEVER
NEGOTIATE.

JUST AN
AMATEUR.

SCARED
TO KILL
SOMEONE,
ISN'T?



SURPRISE,
SURPRISE.

I DIDN'T THINK
YOU COULD
DO THIS SORT
OF THING.

YOU...



YOU
KILLED
EVILGAL.







WE INTERCEPTED YOUR CALL AND TRACED IT. YOUR ORGANIZATION SHOULD HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT BY NOW.

OUR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN WATCHING YOUR EVERY MOVEMENT FOR THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS.



IT'S OVER.



YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THE "MINE" ARE YOU?

YOU. YOUR NUMBER.

WHAT IS IT?



WAIT!

LET'S GO.





YOU
DID VERY
WELL.



AA AA
AA.

YOU
WON THE
SECOND
YOU TOOK
THE
BATTLE.

YOU
DIDN'T
SHOOT
BECAUSE
YOU'RE A
GOOD
PERSON
DEEP
DOWN.

AA...
AA AA...
AA.

I
DIDN'T DO
ANY-
THING.



YOUR
FRIEND.

YOU'VE
AVENGED
HIM.

It was
just then...



AA.

I swear I
heard his voice
in the wind.

"Thanks."

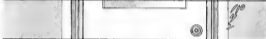
"Thanks,
Shingo."



"Thanks—
buddy."



HAH.



YOU
DID
WELL.

YOU'VE
WON.



HAH'S
FRIEND?

THINK
I'VE
GOT
THE
SHAKES.



MY PEOPLE
ARE ON THE
WAY.

THEY'LL
PICK
HIM UP.

HE WILL
PROBABLY
SPEND THE
REST OF HIS
LIFE BEHIND
BARS.



Everything was over.

My life was back to normal. I was on my own again.

With her mission over, "Musaishi" disappeared.



Mission 7 - The Message, Part 2 End



Agent Profile

Musashi

Operative number: 9
Operative name: Musashi

Current alias: Shinozuka Kou
Place of birth: Unknown
Sex: Female
Age: Unknown, allegedly 16
Height: 5' 10"
IQ: Allegedly over 200

Commando for Ultimate Blue,
the "other United Nations."
Single-digit agents allegedly
have the power to change
the course of world history.



CMX

**Musashi
#9, vol. 3**

by Takahashi
Miyuki

Coming in
May

Nothing has ever been what it seems for 17-year-old Tachibana, especially since Shinonaka Kōji (aka, Musashi #9) suddenly entered his life. Tachibana is slowly falling into Shinonaka's world of dangerous covert operations—a world he is ill prepared for. His growing attraction (espionage Musashi #9's mission as he increasingly becomes a liability to her) Shinonaka's apparent lack of discretion exposes Tachibana to the very dangers from which she is supposed to be protecting him.



STANDARD AD SIZES: 4 1/2" x 6 1/2" (114mm x 165mm) (100% CMX)

cmxmanga.com

Agent Profile

Number 4

Code number: 4
Code name: Ralla



US military satellite

CMX
pure manga

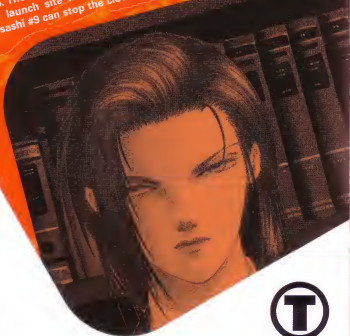


MUSASHI #9

Exotic. Smart. Lethal.
Musashi #9 doesn't live
the life of a normal teenager.
Hers is full of intrigue,
violence, and death.

**The fate of the hostages—and
Tokyo—hangs in the balance!**

Musashi #9 is short on words, but not on action. She fearlessly takes on terrorists and other criminals in the name of peace. Little is revealed about the organization for which she works, but when the world is in danger and all else fails, Ultimate Blue will be there. In this volume, Ultimate Blue sends Musashi #9 to neutralize terrorists threatening a cruise missile strike on Tokyo. The terrorists have the clear advantage, with hostages in tow and their launch site miles away. The countdown has begun, and only Musashi #9 can stop the clock in time!



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\$9.95 USA \$15.25 CAN
ISBN: 1-4012-0541-0
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